

I believe embodies Joe Serna's legacy as a political role model and as a leader. Botz wrote, "Most citizens look at the day when citizen-politicians governed us. Serna was a living and working embodiment of those days. He was brash and arrogant as he looked after Sacramento and its citizens' best interests in the larger political level. But on an interpersonal level, he expressed deep concern and intense compassion of all River City citizens, particularly the poor and disadvantaged."

Joe Serna possessed an unparalleled commitment to helping others. He fought for the underdog and befriended those who needed him the most. For that Mr. Speaker, I will always look up to Joe Serna.

H.R. 2668, STREAMLINING FEC

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, let's lift FEC reform out of legislative limbo where it has been for twenty years. Before we leave for the year let's pass H.R. 2668, a bill to streamline FEC procedures and improve FEC reporting.

The bill is not controversial—it has broad support on both sides of the aisle and it is needed. There is simply no reason not to pass this bill today.

In September I wrote to Speaker HASTERT requesting that this bill be placed on the suspension calendar. It is a good bill—sponsored by House Administration Chair BILL THOMAS—and voted unanimously out of the House Administration Committee earlier this year.

The bill contains most of the provisions in the bill introduced earlier this year. It was prepared with the support and assistance of the six Republican and Democratic FEC Commissioners. In addition to the support of the Commission, H.R. 2668 is supported by Members on both sides of the aisle.

It would: Improve disclosure of State activity; make it easier for contributors to comply with the law; remove obsolete provisions; and broaden candidate's commercial lending options.

Earlier this year, we voted on this bill on the floor of the House. Like almost every one of my Democratic colleagues and a broad group of Republicans, I voted against the bill. I voted against FEC reform because it would have blocked a vote on the bi-partisan campaign finance reform bill sponsored by Reps. SHAYS and MEEHAN. FEC reform deserves our support on its own merits. It should not continue to be used as a pawn in the larger debate.

In my opinion, FEC reform should not have been a part of that debate. That is because—as Chairman THOMAS has repeatedly stressed, H.R. 2668 is not about campaign finance reform—H.R. 2668 is about making the routine procedural reforms that are needed over the course of time by all agencies.

Unlike other Executive branch agencies that request and receive noncontroversial legislative changes to aid in the efficient and effective operation of the agency—changes requested by the FEC simply don't happen.

For over twenty years, the FEC has annually sent to Congress requested statutory changes. And each year—just like in our re-

cent campaign finance debate—provisions that are needed and have no real opposition become tangled up in our debate about how to ensure the integrity of our campaign finance system.

But this year we can do it differently. We have a solid FEC reform bill that combines needed changes into one package. We have bipartisan support for the bill.

If we fail to act it means that the work that we did in the House Administration Committee to create this worthwhile bill was just a cynical game to defeat comprehensive campaign finance reform. I have asked Speaker HASTERT to bring H.R. 2668 to the floor on the suspension calendar—and I urge him to do so again today. FEC reform standing alone is worthwhile. We have the chance to pass it and we should.

HONORING DR. JACK TURNER

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Jack Turner for 30 years of service to Middle Tennessee State University as an associate professor of political science.

Dr. Turner has had a profound effect on many Middle Tennesseans. His patience and perseverance with the teaching profession have been invaluable assets to the Middle Tennessee community. Over the years, many members of my staff have had the benefit of his guidance. I, too, have had that privilege as a student, as well as being a colleague through my own teaching experience at Middle Tennessee State University.

I ask today that we recognize this man for his 30 years of achievement and dedication to the teaching profession and to Middle Tennessee State University. He has certainly benefited young minds with his vast knowledge and experience. As a representative of Middle Tennessee, I feel the same regret that the community feels to see Dr. Turner retire. I am, however, confident that he will contribute to the community in many other ways. So, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives today to join me in wishing him well in his future endeavors.

REVERSE TREND OF HATRED AND ANTI-AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I graduated from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1976. Twenty-three years later, in 1999, African Americans attending this University, in the shadow of our nation's capital, are receiving racist hate mail and threats.

Is it possible that instead of keeping our forward impetus as the most enlightened society in the world, the ignorant have taken the reins and are steering us backwards into the new millennium?

Well, recently, Florida Governor Jeb Bush closed the door of opportunity to many minori-

ties by overturning affirmative action in state college admissions. This will result in exclusion; preventing us from realizing our full potential as a nation and I urge the Board of Regents to reject this action.

I also call upon this entire nation to reverse the trend toward the subversion of diversity and equality. Let's take the reins and steer this nation forward.

CLOVIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
SALUTE TO BUSINESS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Clovis Chamber of Commerce 1999 Salute to Business honorees for their hard work and accomplishments. The honorees are: Anlin Industries, N&N Boats, Vicki Dobbs, and David Maestas.

Anlin Industries is being honored as the 1999 Industrial Company of the Year. Anlin Industries is a vinyl window and door manufacturer that started eight years ago in October of 1991 with four employees, and no sales. In 1996, Anlin sales were \$9.6 million with a seven figure net profit before taxes with 100 employees. This year Anlin Industries now has 183 employees with \$21 million in sales. President Thomas Vidmar attributes all of Anlin Industries success to the hard work of its employees.

Anlin's mission is to be the preeminent replacement window and door manufacturer in the country, providing their customers with the highest quality products and service in the business. Earning a fair return on investment and continually reinvesting those profits in their people and the business, ensuring Anlin's long term success and career opportunities for generations to come.

N&N Boats and Mr. Rich Lyons is the 1999 Small Business of the Year Award recipient. Rich Lyons has been in the boating industry since 1977. He established N&N Boats in April 1994 when N&N Marine closed after 27 years in the Fresno/Clovis area. Initially the business was repairing boats and selling parts. Today they have a line of new boats and accessories. N&N Boats has assisted Western Directory with the sponsorship of the Chamber Golf Tournament for the past two years.

Vicki Dobbs is the 1999 Professional Business Woman of the year. Vicki is a Realtor, and a native of Fresno graduating from California State University, Fresno as one of the first women in ag-education in the Valley. Vicki is a strong advocate for agriculture and the need for broad based agricultural education programs. She supports the Ag Advisory Committee, the Clovis FFA, and serves as a Director on the Board for the Foundation for Clovis Schools. Vicki also supports the Clovis Police Activities League and has been involved with the Clovis High Ag Boosters. Vicki is an Executive Ambassador for the Clovis Chamber of Commerce and was elected to the Board of Directors. She has been voted the Best Realtor in Clovis for the past several years by readers of the Clovis Independent. Vicki Dobbs is the top producing sales associate for the Clovis office of Guarantee Real Estate. She is definitely tuned into Clovis and its unique way of life.